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December 17, 1996

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Patent Application *fed et al*
Applicant: Hiroaki Kitano et ano.
Our Ref.: 450100-3752

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are papers constituting the above patent application which is being filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.53 without a signed Declaration. Please accord a filing date and a serial number to such application and inform the undersigned thereof so that a signed Declaration and the surcharge required by 37 C.F.R. 1.16(e) may be duly filed.

Please address all correspondence to:

William S. Frommer, Esq.
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Respectfully,

William S. Frommer
William S. Frommer
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WSF:sea
Enclosures



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Date: December 17, 1996
CMS Docket No.: 450100-3752

TO: THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

With reference to the filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office of an application for patent in the name(s) of: Hiroaki Kitano et ano. entitled: INFORMATION RETRIEVAL APPARATUS AND METHOD

— This is an application of a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9(f) and the amounts shown in parentheses below have been employed in calculating the fee.

— Small Entity Verified Statement is enclosed was filed in the parent application and is still proper.

The following are enclosed:

 X Specification

 X 5 Claim(s) (including 2 independent claims)

 This application contains a multiple dependent claim.

 X Oath or Declaration and Power of Attorney (unsigned)

 X 7 Sheet(s) of Drawings

 X Our check 40346 for \$ 770.00 , calculated as follows:

Basic Fee - \$770.00 (385.00)	\$ 770.00
Total Number of Claims in excess of 20 at \$22.00 each	0
Number of Independent Claims in excess of 3 at \$80.00 each	0
Multiple Dependent Claim Fee at \$260.00	0
Total Filing Fee	\$ 770.00

Assignment Recording Fee \$40.00

 Order Form for Recording Assignment

 X Certified copy of each of the following application(s) to substantiate the claim(s) for priority made in the Declaration:

Application No. 07-334445 filed 12/22/95 in Japan

Please charge any additional fees required for the filing of this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-3925. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

CURTIS, MORRIS & SAFFORD, P.C.
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By: William S. Frommer
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